



**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

***ASIA – Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation
Programs***

Fact Sheet #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

November 26, 2003

Note: This updates Fact Sheet #2, FY 2003, dated March 27, 2003

Background

The Asia-Pacific Region is more prone to natural hazards such as earthquakes, typhoons, floods, landslides, volcanoes, droughts, and wildfires than any other region in the world. Asia's vulnerability is compounded by socio-economic conditions that are steadily increasing the impact of disasters. Demographic changes, urbanization, and environmental degradation have reduced the amount of habitable land available, forcing the settlement of hazard-prone, marginal lands, such as flood plains and steep slopes. USAID/OFDA is committed to assisting in the development of preparedness, mitigation, and emergency response capacities. Since 1995, USAID/OFDA has provided approximately \$32.8 million for ongoing preparedness and mitigation projects throughout the region. In FY 2003, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$6 million for disaster preparedness and mitigation projects in the Asia-Pacific Region.

**USAID/OFDA Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance
Regional**

- **Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP)**: Implemented by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), AUDMP has received USAID/OFDA assistance since its inception in September 1995. The program aims to make cities safer by reducing the disaster vulnerability of urban populations, infrastructure, critical facilities, and shelter, and by promoting replication and adaptation of successful preparedness measures in targeted cities throughout Asia. AUDMP also promotes sharing of disaster-related information, networking among regional disaster managers, and the development and management of courses for non-governmental organizations (NGOs), disaster management organizations, and regional and national governments. To date, AUDMP has implemented projects in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Current AUDMP activities are focused in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Laos, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. The program ends in August 2004. Total funding to date is \$9,453,800.....**FY 03 \$1,002,500.**
- **Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER), Phase II**: The PEER program aims to create a large pool of trained instructors from emergency response agencies who will in turn train others from their organization. The first phase of PEER, managed by ADPC, began in 1998 in India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines. Phase II of PEER, managed by the National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) based in Nepal, focuses on the training of first responders, collapsed structure search and rescue, and the development of hospital preparedness for mass casualty events. Phase II of PEER began in March 2003 and will continue through 2008. Total PEER funding to date is \$3,748,117.....**FY 03 \$1,500,000.**
- **South Pacific Disaster Training Program**: USAID/OFDA has supported the South Pacific Disaster Training Program implemented by The Asia Foundation since 1995. The objectives of the training program are to: 1) improve the capacity and performance of local and national disaster management agencies and individuals; 2) develop and adapt training materials relevant to the region; and 3) strengthen the capacity of South Pacific countries to organize and conduct disaster management courses. The Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Palau participate in the program. The current project ends in December 2003. An Annual Program Statement solicitation for a follow-on project will be posted during FY 04. Total funding to date is \$2,260,141.....**FY 03 \$352,174.**
- **Asia Flood Network**: The Asia Flood Network (AFN) strengthens the capacity of national hydrometeorological institutions in climate, weather, and hydrological forecasting while directly involving communities at risk in reducing vulnerability to hydrometeorological hazards. In cooperation with partners in Asia, the AFN is jointly implemented by OFDA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Current activities are focused on the Mekong and the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Megna River basins, but other potential implementations of the AFN include the Red River Basin. This five-year program began in August 2003 and will continue until August 2008. The first \$500,000 of the estimated \$2,500,000 total cost was provided in FY03.....**FY 03 \$500,000.**

- Technical Assistance for Hydrometeorological Disasters: The U.S. National Weather Service and USGS provided technical advice and guidance to the Mekong River Commission and the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development on various hydro-meteorological issues including community based flood mitigation, data collection systems using telecommunications for real-time data collection and transmission, and data sharing in trans-boundary river basins. Total project funding to date is \$80,000..... **FY 03 \$80,000.**
- Strengthening of Local Earthquake Monitoring Efforts: USAID/OFDA supports the USGS’s Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP) in order to provide technical assistance to earthquake monitoring organizations throughout the world. In Asia, USGS/VDAP provides technical assistance to the Philippines Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, to the Port Moresby Geophysical Observatory and Rabaul Volcano Observatory, Papua New Guinea, and to the Directorate of Volcanology and Geological Hazards Mitigation in Indonesia. USGS/VDAP assistance includes training on how to conduct risk assessments, development of early warning plans, transfer of seismic monitoring equipment, and training on technology transfers. Funding for this program is part of a world-wide initiative with the USGS and NOAA.

South Asia

- India Earthquake Safety Initiative: Implemented by Geohazard International, the objectives of the program are to conduct risk assessments and risk reduction activities in 20 of India’s most earthquake-prone urban areas, and implement mitigation activities in five of those areas. This program, co-funded with USAID/OFDA and USAID/India, began in September 2002 and will continue until October 2005. Total funding to date is \$650,000.....**FY 03 \$450,000.**
- Incident Command System (ICS) Training: Implemented through an interagency agreement between USAID/OFDA and the U.S. Forest Service, this two-year capacity-building program provides ICS training and simulation exercises at the national and state levels in India and the region. Additional funding is provided by USAID/India. The program also provides technical assistance and training to government and non-government disaster managers to assist them in developing coordinated disaster response planning. This activity started in April 2002 and will continue until April 2004. USAID/OFDA provided the total funding of \$906,712 for the project in FY 2002.
- Regional Flood Forecasting Forums: The forums bring together decision-makers and technical personnel from the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region to promote collaboration and share information related to flood management, flood early-warning systems, and broader trans-boundary water issues in the region. The forums are hosted by the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) based in Kathmandu, Nepal. Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan participate in the program. The forums began in November 2001 and will continue through March 2004. Total funding to date is \$250,860.
- Flood Forecasting in Bangladesh: USAID/OFDA is supporting a flood forecasting project in Bangladesh through the University of Colorado’s Program in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (PAOS). The program combines monsoon climate prediction with a hydrodynamic model of the Bay of Bengal to predict conditions contributing to prolonged and destructive flooding. The program aims to develop comprehensive flood forecasting technology for Bangladesh and provides climate forecasting reports to agriculture, transport, and other sectors for non-flood periods. This three-year project began in September 2000 and ends in December 2003. Total funding to date is \$1,166,994.....**FY 03 \$308,148.**
- Community Flood Monitoring and Forecasting in Bangladesh: Implemented by Riverside Technology Inc., this five-year USAID/OFDA project supports a community-based approach for flood monitoring and forecasting to reduce the vulnerability of communities living in floodplains and mitigate future flood damage. The project began in September 2002 and ends in September 2007. Total funding to date is \$541,991.
- Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Risk Management Plan: NSET works with the Government of Nepal, NGOs, schools, and local communities to increase earthquake awareness and preparedness by coordinating and monitoring the long-term earthquake risk reduction plan for the Kathmandu Valley. The project began in September 2000 and will continue until August 2004. Total funding to date is \$441,860.....**FY 03 \$109,700.**
- Earthquake Preparedness for the Kathmandu Valley: This program, implemented by the American Red Cross in partnership with NSET, strengthens the earthquake disaster preparedness and response capability of the Nepal Red Cross Society and ten communities in the Kathmandu Valley. The project began in September 2003 and ends in February 2005. The total cost of the project was provided in FY 03.....**FY 03 \$282,437.**

- **Flood and Drought Mitigation Strategies in South Asia:** Through this program, implemented by the Institute for Social and Environmental Transition, USAID/OFDA supports the utilization of flood and drought coping strategies developed by local communities in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh and will recommend new and more effective strategies for reducing vulnerabilities. The program began in September 2002 and will continue until March 2004. Total funding to date is \$299,140.

Southeast Asia

- **Flood Forecasting and Early-Warning Systems in the Mekong River Basin:** This activity is implemented by the Mekong River Commission (MRC), an intergovernmental river basin organization based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The governments of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam participate in MRC’s activities including increasing flood forecasting capacity and early-warning information transfer to communities in the Lower Mekong River Basin. The project will strengthen flood warnings by making them more responsive to the needs of at-risk populations in Cambodia and Lao PDR, and will develop tools, methods, and protocols with community-based partners to enable flood-vulnerable populations to effectively utilize MRC flood information. This five-year program began in January 2003 and ends in January 2008. Total funding to date is \$1,250,000.....**FY 03 \$250,000.**
- **Climate Forecast Applications:** This project is a follow-up initiative to the 1998-2003 Extreme Climate Events Program. The objective of the Climate Forecast Applications is to strengthen the national capabilities of Indonesia and the Philippines to manage and reduce the impacts of climate fluctuations through targeted demonstration projects and community participation. The project will develop decision support tools and capacities to reduce vulnerability to climate variability at the community level and mobilize communities to utilize the climate forecast data. The program began in April 2003 and will conclude in March 2008. Total funding to date is \$1,498,863.....**FY 03 \$450,000.**
- **Flood Early-Warning System in Central Vietnam:** USAID/OFDA has funded the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) since June 2000 to develop flood early-warning systems in flood-prone Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, and Binh Dinh provinces of central Vietnam. Working in collaboration with the Government of Vietnam’s Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the program includes: 1) training of disaster officials and the affected populations on the use of flood mapping to reduce loss of life, economic consequences, and disruption of livelihoods; 2) the implementation of river flood alert systems in three river basins in central Vietnam; and 3) a TV and radio-based flood disaster warning system at the national level and in three provinces of Vietnam. This project will continue until June 2004. Total project funding to date is \$994,000.....**FY 03 \$250,000.**
- **Coastal Storm Early-Warning System in Vietnam:** USAID/OFDA provides funding to UNDP, working in collaboration with the Government of Vietnam’s (GVN) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, for the implementation of a radio-based coastal storm warning system. Using radio broadcasts, the project will provide early-warnings for fishing boats up to 65 miles offshore and for 25 coastal provinces of Vietnam. The NOAA National Weather Service has assisted the GVN with the design of the storm warning system. UNDP is working with the GVN to design community-based disaster preparedness training for the subsistence fishing populations at the commune and village levels. This project began in May 2001 and will continue until May 2004. Total project funding to date is \$1,440,000.....**FY 03 \$480,000.**
- **Conflict Preparedness Program in Mindanao, Philippines:** Implemented by Save the Children/Philippines, this initiative will enable disaster preparedness activities to respond to internally displaced population flows and provide prompt access to these populations in the conflict-affected areas of western Mindanao. The program aims to establish an emergency response network of local NGOs and community-based groups to implement preparedness and relief activities, provide small grants to local NGO, and create a small stockpile of locally procured relief items for use in emergencies. Initiated in March 2003, this program will continue until March 2005. Total project funding to date is \$500,000.....**FY 03 \$500,000.**

USAID/OFDA FY 2003 Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance.....\$6,514,959.

USAID/OFDA FY 2003 Preparedness and Mitigation Assistance by Sector

Project Name	Conflict	Hydro-Met	Earthquakes	Multi-Hazard
Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program				\$1,002,500
Program for the Enhancement of Emergency Response, Phase II			\$750,000	\$750,000
South Pacific Disaster Training				\$352,174
Asia Flood Network		\$500,000		
Hydrometeorological Technical Assistance		\$80,000		
India Earthquake Safety Initiative			\$450,000	
Flood Forecasting in Bangladesh		\$308,148		
Kathmandu Valley Risk Management Plan			\$109,700	
Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness			\$282,437	
Flood Forecasting and Early-Warning in Mekong River Basin		\$250,000		
Climate Forecast Applications		\$450,000		
Central Vietnam Flood Early-Warning		\$250,000		
Vietnam Coastal Storm Early-Warning		\$480,000		
Conflict Preparedness in the Philippines	\$500,000			
Total: \$6,515,959	\$500,000	\$ 2,318,148	\$1,592,137	\$2,104,674

USAID fact sheets and situation reports can be obtained from the USAID website at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/